

FCC Appeal of USAC Decision
CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4– BEN 136269 – FY2017

May 24, 2018

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554 (*submitted electronically via ECFS*)

Appeal – CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6

USAC Appeal Decision Date: March 27, 2018

Form 471Number: 171008569

Funding Request Number (FRN): 1799068050, 1799068098, 1799068105, 1799068108

Funding Year: 2017

Billed Entity Name: CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4

BEN: 136269

Contact Information:

Contact Person Name:	Don Dietrich
Contact Person Phone:	314-378-1667
Contact Person E-Mail:	ddietrich@e-rateprofessionals.com

Decision being appealed: USAC's Denial of our Appeal #79559 denying multiple FRNs.

Text from USAC Denial: The text below is from the Post Commitment spreadsheet. The SLD Denial Letter is included as Attachment 2 and Post Commitment Summary as Attachment 3.

The Category Two budget for BEN 72225 is \$38,213.91. Your total requested Category Two pre-discount funding amount for BEN 72225 exceeds this entity's Category Two Budget by: \$26,795.36. Therefore appeal of this funding request is being denied because you have not authorized sufficient modifications to the Category Two funding requests to bring this BEN within its allowable Category Two budget.

Background:

During PIA review, we missed the response deadline and were denied for Cat2 for over budget reasons. In our USAC appeal we stated that we had responded (late) and that we had reduced/removed the amounts in question and asked SLD to re-examine the FRNs. One of the entities (BEN 72225 – International Prep Academy) was over the Cat2 budget by more than the requested amount for FY2017. We responded that we were requesting removal of that entity from the application and we requested removal of all charges associated with that entity. Even with this removal, the entity was still over the Cat2 budget from previous years but there was nothing that we could do about that for FY2017, since we had removed all charges. In addition two of the FRNs were denied with the reason “Cancelled in consultation with the applicant” which was not our intent. We assume this is an error on SLD's part or was caused by our removal of Entity 72225 from the application.

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Details: The original PIA questions stated that we were over the Cat2 budget at IPA by \$32,817.32 but we had only applied for \$ 3,010.98 in FY2017. This overage was based on approved amounts from FY2015 and FY2016. We requested removal of all charges for IPA but were still over budget from previous years. We believe that SLD failed to recognize this and unfairly denied the entire application (all FRNs) based on one school being over budget. We understand that SLD's policy has been to not adversely penalize districts for past Cat2 overages and that we should not be penalized for this status at IPA. We also maintain that SLD should not deny an entire FRN based on a single entity being over budget.

SLD has denied all FRNs for all entities based on this one school being over its Cat2 Budget.

Finally this appeal is for only four of the five FRNs on our application. We have not included the final FRN 1799068110 in this appeal because time has lapsed and we have no ability to use the funding for that FRN at this time.

Summary and Requested Action: We request that funding be re-instated for the four FRNs listed above and that USAC re-evaluate our response and simply remove Entity # 72225 International Prep Academy from each of the FRNs in question and fund the remainder.

Sincerely,

(filed electronically via ECFS)

Donald Dietrich

E-Rate Consultant to Champaign Com Sch Dist 4

314-378-1667

ddietrich@e-rateprofessionals.com

Included below:

Att 1: Champaign School District Appeal to USAC dated 10/24/2017

Att 2: USAC's Denial of Appeal dated February 26, 2018

Att 3: Copy of USAC Post Commitment Request

Att 4: Signed LOA

Att 1: SLD Appeal - 1 page

[Records](#) / [Appeals](#)

SLD Appeal CHP Cat2 2017 - #79559

[Summary](#) [Associated FRNs](#) [Review Inquiries](#) [News](#) [Related Actions](#)

In-Review

Outreach

Wave Ready

Committed

Appeal Information

[View Status \(+\)](#)**Funding Year** 2017**Submitting Organization** [CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4 \(BEN: 136269\)](#)**Created By** Don Dietrich**Created On** 10/24/2017 12:09 PM EDT

Main Contact

Name Don Dietrich**Email** ddietrich@btu-consultants.com**Phone Number** 314-378-1667

Narrative

We did not realize that there were outstanding questions on this application until the deadline for responses had passed. There has been a change in personnel at the district and the email did not reach us in time. The deadline for responses to the PIA questions was 10/17/2017 and we responded on 10/20/2017. Some of the denials are for Category 2 Budget items that we do not contest. We were denied in full for all of these FRNs. Please review our latest uploaded responses to validate that we were only over Cat2 budget at a few schools. We request that our application be re-evaluated in light of our response in EPC. We apologize for the late response and ask that we be re-evaluated for approval.

Appeal Details

Decision appealed by applicant Funding Commitment Decision Letter

If you wish to modify or cancel your appeal, or, if you have any questions about your appeal, please contact the E-rate Program's Client Service Bureau (CSB) at (888) 203-8100.

[View Supporting Documentation \(+\)](#)

Att 2 - USAC Appeal Denial 03-27-18

**E-Rate Productivity Center** Revised Funding Commitment Decision Letter for
136269 - CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4

Thank you for participating in the Schools and Libraries Program for Funding Year 2017. This letter is your notification that we have completed our review of the post-commitment requests submitted by you or your service provider, which can include appeals, service substitutions, SPIN changes, FCC Form 486 reviews, and/or FCC Form 500 reviews.

There are two files attached to this notification, both of which provide important information. The Excel file provides the funding decision for each FRN included in your post-commitment requests, and lists any changes USAC made to the FRNs. The second file contains information about your appeals rights, and other important program reminders. An explanation of the fields in the RFCDL is available in the EPC section of our website.

NEXT STEPS

- If you disagree with USAC's decision, review the attached pdf to determine how to appeal.
- If the FCC Form 486 has not already been submitted, use the information in this notification to file one in EPC now.
- Work with your service providers to determine who will be invoicing USAC. If you have paid in full for services already delivered and are seeking reimbursement, make sure that you have an FCC Form 498 on file, and then submit your FCC Form 472 (BEAR).

Remember the deadlines for delivery and installation of your services. Your deadlines are listed in column AC of the attached spreadsheet. USAC will not approve an invoice when services are delivered after this date. A request to extend the service delivery deadline is only available in certain circumstances. More information can be found on our website.

The "More Info" link below provides summary data about your requests in this wave. Click on the date/time below to display the entire notification for easy printing. Please keep a copy of this notification for your records.



[FY 2017 RFCDL Supplement](#)
PDF 187 KB



[Post Commit Request - 90810 - CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4](#)
XLSX 50 KB



#136269 - CHAMPAIGN...

Mar 27, 2018 ☆ 🔒 [Comment](#) [Hide Info](#) ▲

Request Number 90810

Billed Entity Number 136269

Billed Entity Name CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4
Billed Entity FCC RN 0015653066
Applicant's Form Identifier CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4
RFCDL Date Mar 27, 2018
Approved Amount \$0.00

Att 3 - USAC Post Commitment Request Summary - 1 page										
BEN	BEN Name	Post-Commitment Request Type	Post-Commitment Application/Request Number	FRN	Post-Commitment Decision (FRN Level)	Post-Commitment Rationale (FRN Level)	Original FRN Funding Decision	Revised FRN Funding Decision	RFCDL Comments (FRN Level)	FCC Form 471
136269	CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4	Appeals	79559	1799068050	Denied	The Category Two budget for BEN 72225 is \$38,213.91. Your total requested Category Two pre-discount funding amount for BEN 72225 exceeds this entity's Category Two Budget by: \$26,795.36. Therefore appeal of this funding request is being denied because you have not authorized sufficient modifications to the Category Two funding requests to bring this BEN within its allowable Category Two budget.	Denied	Denied		171008569
136269	CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4	Appeals	79559	1799068098	Denied	The Category Two budget for BEN 72225 is \$38,213.91. Your total requested Category Two pre-discount funding amount for BEN 72225 exceeds this entity's Category Two Budget by: \$26,795.36. Therefore appeal of this funding request is being denied because you have not authorized sufficient modifications to the Category Two funding requests to bring this BEN within its allowable Category Two budget.	Denied	Denied		171008569
136269	CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4	Appeals	79559	1799068105	Denied	The Category Two budget for BEN 72225 is \$38,213.91. Your total requested Category Two pre-discount funding amount for BEN 72225 exceeds this entity's Category Two Budget by: \$26,795.36. Therefore appeal of this funding request is being denied because you have not authorized sufficient modifications to the Category Two funding requests to bring this BEN within its allowable Category Two budget.	Denied	Cancelled	CR1: FRN canceled in consultation with the applicant.	171008569
136269	CHAMPAIGN COMM SCHOOL DIST 4	Appeals	79559	1799068108	Denied	The Category Two budget for BEN 72225 is \$38,213.91. Your total requested Category Two pre-discount funding amount for BEN 72225 exceeds this entity's Category Two Budget by: \$26,795.36. Therefore appeal of this funding request is being denied because you have not authorized sufficient modifications to the Category Two funding requests to bring this BEN within its allowable Category Two budget.	Denied	Cancelled	CR1: FRN canceled in consultation with the applicant.	171008569

E-Rate LOA (Letter of Agency)

To Whom It May Concern:

We have retained BTU Consultants, LLC under contract as Independent Consultants to serve as our agent for working with E-Rate issues for **Funding Year 2018 – 2019** and all previous years in all areas of Telecommunications, Internet Services and Internal Connections. They will be assisting us in compliance issues and forms preparation. Their contact information is shown below:

BTU Consultants, LLC

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Please accept their comments, statements and signatures on our behalf. Please honor any requests for bills and CSR's, if applicable.

We trust you will cooperate with BTU Consultants, LLC in every way possible.

Thank you.

Signature of District Authority:



Date 06/29/17

Printed Name / Title:

John Gutzmer / Director of IS/NS

School District Name:

Champaign Unit 4 Schools

cc: BTU Consultants, LLC